



NANTWICH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1965

To which is appended the Report of the
Chief Public Health Inspector



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Nantwich Rural District

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To which is appended the Report
of the Chief Public Health
Inspector

To the Chairman and Members of the Nantwich Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Nantwich Rural District, for the year 1965.

In introducing this report, there are no special items to which I would wish to draw the Council's attention which have not already been referred to in previous reports, and it is pleasing to record some definite progress towards more satisfactory sewerage and sewage disposal as instanced by the opening of the Audlem Scheme in November 1965, and the steady progress being made towards the completion of the Wybunbury and Walgherton Schemes. It is hoped that the state of the National finances will not unduly delay the other village schemes which are at present being prepared.

The statistics and social conditions of the District show little change from the previous year, the steady increase in population being consistent with the new housing development. Measles was, as usual, the most prevalent infectious disease and in this respect it will be interesting to see the effect of the newly introduced vaccine when this becomes readily available and is approved for use by the Local Health Authorities.

It will be seen from the report of your Chief Public Health Inspector that the clearance of slum property has almost been achieved and it would appear that the Council has now broken the back of the general housing need, and that future building will be of the more specialised type to cater for the aged and infirm.

I would take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Council for their interest and support, and the Staff of the Health Department for their continued loyalty and assistance which they have given me at all times. In particular would I acknowledge the help given by your Chief Public Health Inspector in the preparing of this report.

I am.

Your obedient servant,

R. KENNETH HAY,
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
Stapeley House,
Stapeley, Nantwich.

July, 1966.

Nantwich Rural District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Whole Council

Chairman: Councillor W. E. Holmes

Vice-Chairman: Councillor D. C. Crowther

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON THE NANTWICH DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor C. W. Jones

Councillor H. Cookson

Councillor Mrs. M. Milnes Walker

Councillor Mrs. J. E. Hill

Councillor J. Dulson

Councillor J. H. Williams

Councillor W. T. Charlesworth

Councillor E. S. Dutton

Councillor Miss E. H. Nield

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. R. Kenneth Hay, M.D., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector: John S. Townley, M.A.P.H.I.,
M.Inst. P.C.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector: John Craven, Cert.
S.I.B., Cert.I. of Housing

Additional Public Health Inspector: Malcolm B. Elliott,
M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector: J. Russell Adderley,
Cert. S.I.B.

Additional Public Health Inspector: Kenneth M. Jones, Cert.
P.H.I.E.B.

Additional Public Health Inspector: L. Peter Boardman,
Cert. P.H.I.E.B.

Clerical Assistant/Shorthand Typist: Mrs. Gillian E.
Mottershead

Male Trainee: Charles C. Brookfield (Resigned 26/9/65)

Clerk: Laurence A. Penhall (as from 26/9/65 Male Trainee)

Clerk: T. Graham Hassall (25/10/65)

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	100,885
Population	...	...	...	...	...	29,760
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	10,114
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	£888,152
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£3,585

The district is situated in the South East of Cheshire. It adjoins the County of Salop in the South and the County of Stafford in the east, and forms part of the alluvial plain of Cheshire. It surrounds the Borough of Crewe and the Urban District of Nantwich. Whilst the area is predominantly agricultural, a large proportion of the population is to be found in those parishes contiguous to Crewe and Nantwich, in which towns they find their employment. The main source of employment in the Rural District is agriculture and industries allied with it. These take the form of milk and milk product factories, corn mills and agricultural engineering; the latter having increased locally with the mechanisation of farming. There is virtually no unemployment in the area.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

Number	...	...	...	...	...	...	456
Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.32
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births)							3.95

Still Births

Number	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.11
Total Live and Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	463
Infant Deaths (deaths under one year)	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.73
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.54
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births)	13.15
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Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births)	13.15
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------

Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	28.07
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

Deaths

Male	...	...	...	...	...	...	168
Female	...	...	...	...	...	...	151
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	319
Corrected death rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.71
Standardised death rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.81
Figure for England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.5

ROAD ACCIDENTS AND CASUALTIES

The Road Safety Officer has kindly supplied the following particulars :

	1964	1965
Total number of accidents	463	457
Persons Killed		
Children under 5 years	—	—
Children aged 5 to 15 years	—	—
Persons over 15 years	6	9
	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 9

The above figures include the following:—

Persons who reside in the Rural District of Nantwich	2	1
Persons who reside outside the Rural District of Nantwich	4	8
	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 9

Persons Injured		
Children under 5 years (serious)	—	—
Children under 5 years (slight)	5	—
Children 5 to 15 years (serious)	3	—
Children 5 to 15 years (slight)	14	12
Persons over 15 years (serious)	29	42
Persons over 15 years (slight)	215	199
	<hr/> 266	<hr/> 253

WEATHER CONDITIONS

The following weather conditions for the year, have been supplied by the Principal of the Cheshire School of Agriculture, Reaseheath, Nantwich:—

Climatic Data—1965

Month	Rainfall in inches	Air Temp. in degrees C. and F.			
		Minimum		Maximum	
		°C	°F	°C	°F
January	2.925	— 7	18	12	53
February	.295	— 7	18	9	49
March	2.185	— 8	15	22	72
April	1.76	— 3	27	18	65
May	3.205	— 1	31	25	78
June	2.34	4	39	24	76
July	3.91	2	36	23	73
August	2.094	0	32	25	77
September	4.810	2	36	20	68
October	1.060	— 1	31	21	69
November	2.640	— 6	20	13	56
December	5.135	2	22	11	53

Total rainfall 1965—32.359 inches

TABLE OF CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	1	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parastic diseases ...	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	6	11
Malignant neoplasm, lungs, bronchus ...	10	2	12
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	6	6
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	14	25
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
Diabetes	—	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	25	28	53
Coronary disease, angina	41	17	58
Hypertension with heart disease	—	4	4
Other heart disease	15	26	41
Other circulatory disease	5	10	15
Influenza	—	—	—
Pneumonia	5	4	9
Bronchitis	19	4	23
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	3	2	5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	2	4
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	13	15	28
Motor Vehicle accidents	3	1	4
All other accidents	2	1	3
Suicide	3	1	4
Homicide and operations of war	1	—	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total (all causes)	168	151	319
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

There was no cause of unusual or excessive mortality

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths from cancer (all ages) ...	27	31	58

LABORATORY SERVICES

The Public Health Laboratory at Chester accepts samples of water and ice-cream for analysis and the arrangements introduced with the Group Laboratory of the South Cheshire Hospital Management Committee in 1956, for accepting other bacteriological specimens continues, and the service given is much appreciated.

The chemical analysis of water is undertaken by the County Analyst to whom a fee is payable.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Divisional Health Committee relinquished control of this service in February, 1961. With the use of radio control the service is now operated centrally at County Level, with vehicles and personnel based at Crewe. Local requests for ambulance transport are accepted at the Ambulance Depot., Badger Avenue, Crewe. Telephone No. Crewe 2030.

SWIMMING BATHS

There are no public swimming baths or pools in this area.

NURSING SERVICES

14 Nurse/Midwives serve the district and apart from one change and a resignation there is no alteration in the list of nursing staff who work in the area. There have however, been two resignations in the Health Visiting Staff, and detailed information will be found in Appendix I, on Pages 14 and 15.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Midwives Clinic Ante-natal	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Barker Street, Nantwich	Wednesday p.m.
Preparation Clinic	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Barker Street, Nantwich	Monday p.m.
Screening Clinic for Deafness	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Barker Street, Nantwich	1st and 2nd Friday p.m.
	Wistaston Memorial Hall, Wistaston.	3rd Friday p.m.
School Minor Ailment Clinic	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Barker Street, Nantwich	2nd and 4th Monday a.m.
Paediatric Clinic	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Ludford Street, Crewe	3rd Friday p.m.
	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Stalbridge Road, Crewe	1st Friday p.m.
Eye Clinic	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Barker Street, Nantwich	2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Thursday a.m.
Cerebral Palsy Clinic	201 Edleston Road, Crewe	Tuesday a.m. and p.m. and Friday p.m.

Toddlers Clinic	The C.C. Clinic Centre Barker Street, Nantwich	1st Thursday a.m.
Speech Therapy	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Barker Street, Nantwich	Tuesday a.m. and p.m.
Dental Clinic	The C.C. Clinic Centre, Barker Street, Nantwich	Tuesday p.m. Thursday a.m. and p.m.
Special Clinic	8 Herdman Street, Crewe.	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Fri- day 9.0 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Thursday 9.0 a.m. to 7.0 p.m. Saturday 9.0 a.m. to 12 noon.
Cervical Cytology Clinic	The C.C. Clinic Centre Barker Street, Nantwich	Tuesday 2.0 p.m. to 4.0 p.m.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Year of Immunisation and Vaccination	Immunisation		Vaccination	
	Primary Immunisation	Re- Immunisation	Primary Vaccination	Re- Vaccination
1961	384	220	240	34
1962	399	46	1,017	889
1963	406	184	81	43
1964	442	248	139	61
1965	598	300	227	22

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

Protection against poliomyelitis continues and Oral vaccine is now most often used. From records received, the percentages of immunisations with all vaccines are as follows :— Oral 61%, Quadrilin 34% and 5% were immunised with the Salk vaccine.

HOSPITALS

General hospitals at Crewe, Nantwich, and Hartshill in Staffordshire, serve the Rural District, with the old Isolation Hospital now known as Alvaston being available for convalescent cases.

Patients suffering from infectious diseases in the Rural Area are accepted at the Crewe Isolation Hospital, which has met all needs during the year.

The Maternity Hospital at Linden Grange, Crewe, and the Maternity wards at the Barony Hospital, Nantwich, continued to serve the Rural District.

Hospitalisation of tuberculous patients is at Hefferston Grange within the County of Cheshire.

MORTUARY FACILITIES

The arrangements made with the South Cheshire Hospital Management Committee for the use of the mortuary at the Barony Hospital, Nantwich, have worked satisfactorily and continued to meet the needs of the Rural District.

DISINFECTION

Terminal disinfection is carried out at homes of patients suffering from infectious diseases, as and when required. Arrangements for the steam disinfection of bedding and clothing, etc., are made with the South Cheshire Hospital Management Committee, the work being carried out at the Crewe Isolation Hospital.

CARAVAN SITES

Licences for individual caravans were issued under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 in nine cases, and these approvals are conditional and have a limited period. Six applications were refused.

One site at Wrenbury is licensed for up to 10 caravans.

The site at Church Minshull is licensed for 56 caravans but is limited to 30 until additional facilities are available.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

The close liaison between the Council, the Divisional Health Committee, the Local Health Authority, and the County Welfare Department continued to make it possible to administer Section 47 without legal proceedings. In many cases, the provision of a Home Help made it possible for aged persons to continue residence in their own homes and in their own familiar environment.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS AND OTHER INSECT PESTS

No Council or private houses were found to be infested with bed bugs during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector which deals with the matter is attached hereto.

SCHOOLS

No schools were closed during the year as a result of infectious diseases or epidemics.

NUTRITION

No action under this heading has been taken by this Council, and the Welfare Centres at Audlem, Bunbury, Haslington, Shavington, Wistaston and Wrenbury, under the supervision of the Divisional Health Committee have continued to do valuable work in this respect.

SHELL-FISH

There are no shell-fish beds or layings in this district.

MILK SUPPLIES—BRUCELLA ABORTUS

The following table has been supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health, whose department undertakes the sampling in connection with Brucella Abortus.

				Total Submitted	Number Brucella Positive
Bulk Samples	...	...	...	93	4
Dealer Samples	...	...	...	93	—
Individual Cow Samples	...	...	...	188	7
Total				374	11

The increase in the number of Dealer Samples submitted is due to the fact that, commencing at the beginning of 1965, all samples of untreated milk are submitted for Brucella examination.

In cases where individual cow samples proved positive on Brucella Cultural Examination notices are served requiring that the milk from the offending animals will not be sold for human consumption or used in the manufacture of products for human consumption unless it has been treated, or in the case of a sale is sold subject to it being treated before consumption, in such a way as to secure to the satisfaction of the District Medical Officer of Health that it may with safety be so disposed of.

At the end of 1965 there were 13 Dairy herds in the Rural District from which milk was sold raw to the public.

THE LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS, 1963.

There are no Egg Pasteurisation plants in the district.

WATER SUPPLY

The Council is a constituent member of the Mid Cheshire Water Board, which maintains a satisfactory and adequate supply of mains water throughout the whole district, except in the Bunbury area, where the supply is still direct from the Vyrnwy Aquaduct and is being kept under supervision, as occasional unsatisfactory sample results have occurred from time to time.

The Board forwards copies of sample results to the local authority for information and the Council only takes samples from the few private supplies remaining in the district.

48 parishes are completely provided with mains water and of the remaining 20 parishes (excluding Peckforton which has 7 properties from the Estate supply), there are 14 parishes with only one property without mains water; 4 with 2 properties; and 2 with 3 properties.

There are no residential properties known to be obtaining water from standpipes, other than the occasional caravan sites.

The position excluding estate supplies at the end of 1965 is summarised as follows:—

Bad private supplies	...	...	8 (serving 9 properties)
Suspicious private supplies	...	...	8 (serving 9 properties)
Satisfactory private supplies	...	...	10

There were 23 samples taken during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination, 13 proving satisfactory with the remaining 10 unsatisfactory. All occupiers of premises with a bad or suspicious supply have been notified to boil all water intended for domestic purposes.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were 23 cases of Scarlet Fever and no case of Diphtheria was notified during the year. There was only 1 case of Tuberculosis notified, which was none pulmonary, these exclude Inward Transfers.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES SHOWING INCIDENCE OF CASES IN VARIOUS AGE GROUPS AMONG CIVILIANS

Age	Tuberculosis	Puerperal Pyrexia	Scarlet Fever	Pneumonia	Whooping Cough	Measles	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Meningococcal Septicaemia	Erysipelas	TOTALS
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	11
1—	—	—	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	18
2—	—	—	—	—	2	37	—	—	—	—	39
3—	—	—	2	—	—	35	—	—	—	—	37
4—	—	—	4	—	—	49	—	—	—	—	53
5—	—	—	16	—	1	126	—	—	—	—	143
10—	—	—	1	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	11
15—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	1	—	—	6
20—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
35—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1	—	23	1	3	292	—	1	—	1	321

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES NOTIFIED (including Inward Transfers) and MORTALITY DURING 1965

Age Periods			New Cases and Transfers				Deaths			
			Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	
			—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	

Total Cases: 3 Deaths: 0

Inward Transfers. 2

Number of Cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year 1965 :—

Males		Females	
Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
27	12	19	5

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Engineer and Surveyor (Mr. J. K. Smithies) provides the following information with respect to Sewerage and Sewage Disposal and Housing:—

Main Village Schemes

1. **Audlem.** The construction work on the contract for the provision of sewerage and sewage disposal works proceeded satisfactorily under the supervision of the Consultant Engineers and the disposal works were officially opened by the Chairman of the Public Health Committee—S. W. Jackson, Esq, on the 17th November, 1965, and by the end of the year most of the houses were connected to the new public sewer.

2. **Wybunbury and Walgherton.** The contract for the length of sewers in Wybunbury and Walgherton, together with the erection of the necessary pumping stations proceeded satisfactorily under the control of the Council's Consulting Engineers and completion of the scheme is expected early in the new year.
3. **Bunbury.** The Council's Consultants proceeded with the preparation of a sewerage scheme to cover the area of Bunbury and Spurstow, and this has been submitted to the Ministry for approval.

The Council gave consideration to future schemes and decided to carry out schemes covering Wrenbury and District including Newhall and Sound, Hough including the Council Houses at Basford, Bulkeley, Ravensmoor District of Burland and these schemes are referred to the Council's Consultants.

Closet Conversion.

The Council continued to make contributions towards conversions and were forced to take compulsory measures for the few pail closets outstanding at Haslington and Shavington, and the work was carried out in default by the Council.

HOUSING

During 1965, 422 dwellings were completed by private enterprise and at the end of the year 280 were under construction. The Council completed the erection of the following one bedroom bungalows :—

Alpraham	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Church Minshull	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

And this brings the total to 135 of this type of dwelling.

In addition, 32 flatlets were completed at Crosslands, Waterloo Road, Haslington, together with the Part 3 accommodation and Welfare facilities.

Contracts are in hand for the erection of 16 bungalows at Shavington, 4 at Wybunbury and 4 at Marbury, with a further proposal for 2 at Warmingham.

Improvements to housing accommodation by means of Improvement Grants continued during the year, Discretionary Grants covering 2 properties and amounting to £800 were approved. Standard Grants covering 51 properties were approved and £5,772, paid in respect of 47 properties.

APPENDIX 1

NURSES AND HEALTH VISITORS SERVING THE NANTWICH RURAL DISTRICT

Nurses

- Miss L. C. JONES,
12 Wilbraham Close,
Acton.
Tel. No. Nantwich 65571.
- Miss M. P. FEEHAN,
The Oak,
Bunbury,
Tarpoley.
Tel. No. Bunbury 298.
- Mrs. R. E. FORT,
Laundry Cottage,
Rookery Park,
Worleston.
Tel. No. Nantwich 65941.
- Miss M. H. HUNTER,
The Gables,
Audlem.
Tel. No. Audlem 422.
- Mrs. E. WEATHERALL,
22 Cresswellshaw Road,
Alsager.
Tel. No. Alsager 67.
- Mrs. FEATHER,
12 Burlea Drive,
Shavington.
Tel. No. Crewe 67234.
- Mrs. B. E. WHISTON,
The Croft,
115 Stock Lane,
Wybunbury.
Tel. No. Wybunbury 329.
- Mrs. B. A. MOSS,
20 Mill Grove,
Bulkeley.
Tel. No. Cholmondeley 217.
- Miss W. A. GEORGE,
Council Houses,
Newhall Lane,
Aston, Newhall.
Tel. No. Aston 286.
- Miss M. BROCKLEHURST,
Bickley Moss,
Whitchurch.
Tel. No. Cholmondeley 268.
- Miss D. WILLIAMS,
33 Cartwright Road,
Haslington.
Tel. No. Crewe 2693.

Parishes

- Acton, Austerson, Baddiley, Baddington, Brindley, Burland, Edleston, Faddiley, Henhull, Hurleston, Stoke, Wardle.
- Alraham, Bunbury, Calveley, Haughton, Peckforton, Ridley, Spurstow.
- Aston-Juxta-Mondrum, Cholmondeston, Leighton, Church Minshull, Minshull Vernon, Poole, Wettenhall, Woolstanwood, Worleston.
- Audlem, Buerton, Hankelow, Newhall (part), Coole Pilate.
- Barthomley.
- Basford, Chorlton, Hough, Rope, Shavington-cum-Gresty, Weston, Wybunbury (small part).
- Blakenhall, Bridgemere, Checkley-cum-Wrinehill, Doddington, Hatherton, Hunsterson, Lea, Walgherton, Wybunbury (part).
- Bickerton, Bulkeley, Egerton.
- Broomhall, Dodcott-cum-Wilkesley, Marbury-cum-Quoisley (part), Newhall (part), Norbury (part), Sound, Woodcott, Wrenbury-cum-Frith.
- Cholmondeley, Chorley, Marbury-cum-Quoisley (part), Norbury (part), Wirswall.
- Crewe Green, Haslington.

Nurses

Miss E. REILLY,
22 Jackson Avenue,
Nantwich.
Tel. No. Nantwich 65570.

Miss A. P. CURZON,
647 Crewe Road,
Wheelock.
Tel. No. Sandbach 281.

Miss B. E. BRAY,
(Resigned 28/9/65)
34 Elm Close,
Wistaston.
Tel. No. Crewe 2431.

Parishes

Batherton, Stapeley, Willaston (small part).

Warmingham.

Wistaston, Willaston (part).

HEALTH VISITORS

Miss B. HICKSON,
(Resigned 30/9/65)
The Dowery
Welfare Centre,
Barker Street,
Nantwich.
Tel. No. Nantwich 65360.

Miss E. M. SCOTT,
The Dowery,
Welfare Centre,
Barker Street,
Nantwich.
Tel. No. Nantwich 65360.

Miss D. GRIFFITHS,
East View,
Little Heath,
Audlem.
Tel. No. Audlem 443.

Mrs. S. MINGER,
(Resigned 30/9/65)
The Dowery,
Welfare Centre,
Barker Street,
Nantwich.
Tel. No. Nantwich 65360.

Mrs. W. JONES,
37 High Park,
Hawarden,
Chester.
Tel. No. Hawarden 3311.

Mrs. R. DAVIES,
The Dowery
Welfare Centre,
Barker Street,
Nantwich.
Tel. No. Nantwich. 65360.

Acton, Baddiley, Baddington, Brindley,
Broomhall, Bulkeley, Bunbury, Bur-
land, Cholmondeley, Chorley, Edleston,
Faddiley, Haughton, Hurleston, Mar-
bury-cum-Quoisley, Norbury, Peck-
forton, Ridley, Sound, Spurstow,
Stoke, Wirswall, Woodcott, Wrenbury-
cum-Frith.

Alpraham, Aston-Juxta-Mondrum,
Calveley, Cholmondeston, Henhull,
Leighton, Church Minshull, Minshull
Vernon, Poole, Wardle, Wettenhall,
Woolstanwood, Worleston.

Audlem, Austerson, Batherton, Bas-
ford (part), Blakenhall, Bridgemere,
Buerton, Checkley-cum-Wrinehill,
Chorlton, Coole Pilate, Dodcott-cum-
Wilkesley, Doddington, Hankelow,
Hatherton, Hough, Hunsterson, Lea,
Newhall, Stapeley, Walgherton, Wyb-
unbury.

Barthomley, Basford (part), Crewe
Green, Shavington-cum-Gresty,
Weston, Haslington, Rope, Warming-
ham.

Bickerton, Egerton.

Willaston, Wistaston.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1965

Public Health Department,
Stapeley House,
Stapeley,
Nantwich.

To the Chairman and Members of the Nantwich Rural District Council.

The staff of Public Health Inspectors remained unchanged, and the 100% meat inspection service was maintained, with the need for regular work in the evenings and at week-ends continuing as great as ever. The Council's decision to discontinue payment for overtime after so many years had a very disturbing influence on the Inspectors concerned, and will no doubt have some effect on future recruitment of staff. How long we will be able to trade on goodwill has become a matter of anxiety to me personally, and I hope that the Council will be able to see its way to adopt a more favourable policy in the near future.

The year 1965 saw the end of the Ten Year Slum Clearance Programme which was brought to a successful conclusion. Whilst the number of houses estimated to be dealt with was exceeded, there were a number of vacant condemned houses still awaiting demolition to finally complete the Scheme. This does not mean that the "slum clearance" problem is solved as we will still have to deal with "natural wastage", which arises principally through neglect of old properties which are often reprieved by town or city dwellers looking for a country cottage for week-end use or retirement.

Household refuse accumulates hour by hour in the normal day to day life of the people. The problem of dealing with it is further aggravated on the fringes of towns and urban areas by the continuous overspill into the very inviting amenities of the adjacent countryside. So far we have been able to cope with these additional commitments within our original establishment of labour and transport by savings in consequence of the reduction in the number of pail closets by closet conversion schemes which it is hoped will be extended as the opportunity arises.

Work in connection with food hygiene, shops, offices, factories, pest control and water supplies proceeded satisfactorily.

The office work of the department seems to be increasing from year to year, and as much of it is of a technical nature more time of the Public Health Inspectors is being absorbed in the preparation of technical returns and reports.

INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

The following tabular statement sets out the number and nature of visits and inspections made during the year :—

Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	1,238
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	39
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	70
Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	493
Rent Acts	...	...	...	...	9
Food Premises—Sampling, Inspection, etc.	...	...	...	...	163
Milk and Dairies	...	...	...	...	89
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	92
Factories	...	...	...	...	266
Meat Inspection	...	...	...	...	2,938
Clean Air Act	...	...	...	...	5
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	203
Caravan Sites	...	...	...	...	35
Animal Boarding Establishments Act	...	...	...	...	50
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	...	...	...	...	133
Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act	...	...	...	...	5
Cheshire County Council Act	...	...	...	...	1
Other Visits	...	...	...	...	50

NOTICES SERVED

Public Health Acts:—

Informal notices served	...	...	...	14
Statutory notices served	...	...	...	3
Notices complied with	...	...	...	12

Housing Acts:—

Notices to appear	...	...	...	9
Demolition Orders made	...	...	...	10
Closing Orders made	...	...	...	1
Undertakings accepted	...	...	...	2

Food and Drugs Act:—

Informal notices served	...	...	...	11
Notices complied with	...	...	...	14

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

All necessary enquiries and investigations into cases notified to the Medical Officer of Health were made as required. Particular attention was given to those cases where food handlers were involved.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Search for infestations of rats and mice is carried out by the Public Health Inspectors during the normal course of their inspection duties under the various Acts and Regulations administered by the Public Health Department.

There were thirteen contracts for the treatment of business premises renewed during the year and these were supervised and treated along with the Council's sewage works and refuse disposal tips.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The pattern of operation of the scavenging scheme remained unchanged with the reduction of pail closets offsetting the additional demands for household refuse removal by the new housing developments taking place throughout the district. It is hoped that both from the points of view of health and economy that there will be no delay in conversion of those within the scope of the new sewerage schemes at Audlem and Wybunbury.

The winding down of nightsoil collection over the past few years has enabled us to reduce the labour force in the meantime to the extent that we are now working 6 men below the original establishment of 43.

Whilst the labour requirements have altered, the transport needs have become more acute, with the small reserve being stretched to the limit. It is hoped that the introduction of a new vehicle in the coming year will ease the position by making one vehicle available as a standby for emergency use. Regular weekly cleansing of approx. 1,126 pail closets and fortnightly removal of household refuse from approx. 12,582 bins continued. The slight delays arising in consequence of bank holidays were quickly caught up by the usual arrangements for overtime working.

The future of refuse disposal by land reclamation will depend on the co-operation of landowners, and it is sometimes felt that the conditions laid down by the Town Planning Authority are in many ways both restrictive and impractical. Compulsory purchase of sites and appeals to Planning for less arduous conditions will no doubt become necessary.

Composting of nightsoil is still the only practical and economic method of disposal, and continues to meet all our requirements.

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

It is believed that the requirements with respect to sanitary conveniences are being reasonably met. Work required by a notice served in 1964 was satisfactorily completed during the year under review.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The following is a copy of the table forwarded by the Ministry of Labour for the guidance of Medical Officers of Health in preparing that part of their Annual Report which relates to factories:—

Part I of the Act

1—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	NUMBER OF Written Occupiers Notices Prosecuted	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	12	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	112	225	9	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	22	24	1	—
TOTAL	<u>140</u>	<u>261</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>—</u>

2—Cases in which defects were found. (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more “cases”).

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	1	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—

Particulars		Number of cases in which defects were found		Referred To H.M. By H.M.		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
		Found	Remedied	Insp.	Insp.	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)						
(a)	Insufficient	2	2	—	—	—
(b)	Unsuitable or defective	10	10	—	2	—
(c)	Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)		2	2	2	—	—
TOTAL		14	14	3	2	—

Section 133

Section 134

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing) Making apparel) etc.	13	—	—	—	—	—

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Informal action continued as required, with industrial concerns co-operating with the Council's Officials to ensure the prevention of smoke nuisances.

There is still no decision by the Minister with respect to the Smoke Control Order at Wistaston and Woolstanwood, which was submitted in December 1962, and is complimentary with the Borough of Crewe No. 1 Order.

HOUSING

The original number of houses to be dealt with by the 31st December, 1965 was 281, and by that date action had been commenced with respect to 336.

Final action at that date had been taken with respect to 261, leaving 75 to be dealt with as follows :—

Houses to be demolished	...	...	...	...	...	51
Houses to be finally closed on vacation	...	...	...	...	...	7
Houses which will probably be made fit	...	...	...	...	...	17

Of these 75 houses, 35 were still occupied, but 16 were “life tenancy” cases.

The above figures indicate that we have exceeded our original estimate of unfit houses by 55, and that the ten year programme would have been completed by the 31st December, 1965, as intended, if we had been successful in achieving final action with respect to an additional 20 houses, either by demolition, closure or making fit.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

There were 30 Dairies registered during the year and 50 Distributors of Milk.

There were 51 Hawkers of Food registered under Section 144 of the Cheshire County Council Act, 1953.

Details of weight of food (other than meat at slaughterhouses) condemned during 1965 :—

	tons	cwts.	lbs.	ozs.
Poultry	3	4	59	8
Canned Meats	—	—	10	0
Other Foods	—	1	6	8
TOTAL	3	5	76	0

There were 135 samples of ice-cream taken during 1965, with the following results :—

Grade	I	II	III	IV
Number of Samples	100	29	4	2

There were 3 ice-lolly samples taken, all of which were satisfactory.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

The requirements of these regulations have generally been very well complied with.

Regulation 16 requires that wash-hand basins shall be provided in food premises, and in cases where open food is handled Regulation 19 requires that sinks shall be provided also for washing food and equipment. In each case hot and cold water or hot water at a suitably controlled temperature, has to be provided, with a few exceptions, together with the appropriate cleaning materials.

The following table sets out the position with respect to compliance with both Regulations 16 and 19 :—

Trade or Business	TOTAL	No. Complying with Regulation 16	No. to which Regulation 19 applies	No. Complying with Regulation 19
Cafes, Restaurants, etc.	6	6	6	6
School Canteens	32	32	32	32
Factory, Office and other Canteens	10	10	10	10
Fried Fish and Chip Shops ...	5	5	5	5
Licensed Premises	58	53	58	58
Bakehouses	3	3	3	3
General Provisions	102	82	102	101
Butchers	14	12	14	14
Greengrocery	2	2	2	2
Chemists	4	2	4	4
Wet Fish	2	2	2	2
Confectionery	3	3	3	3
Poultry Dressing and Plucking				
Establishments	8	6	8	6
Sweets and Ice-cream	9	9	—	—
TOTAL	258	227	249	246

SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES AND MEAT INSPECTION

Slaughtering continued at the ten private slaughterhouses in the district, the number of animals slaughtered being 46,487 as against 45,052 in 1964, and it is estimated that only one-fifth of these are required to meet the needs of the Rural District.

The maximum charges allowed for inspection under the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, were applied in all cases, with an income of £2,813 0s. 3d., compared with £2,786 2s. 9d. in 1964 and with £815 for the last financial year under the grant system.

The following table shows the details of animals inspected and meat condemned:—

		Cattle					Total
		(Excl. Cows)	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	
Number killed		5,279	9,560	856	12,499	18,293	46,487
Number not inspected		—	—	—	—	—	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci							
Whole Carcasses condemned	...	35	125	131	188	41	520
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned		1,254	7,132	13	2,226	1,695	12,320
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci	... ..	24.4	75.9	16.8	19.3	9.5	27.6
Tuberculosis only							
Whole carcasses condemned	...	—	3	—	1	—	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned		2	71	—	54	—	127
Percentage of the number inspected infected with tuberculosis	... ..	0.04	0.77	—	0.44	—	0.28
Cysticerci only							
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned		20	8	—	—	—	28
Carsases submitted to refrigeration		20	8	—	—	—	28
Generalised and totally condemned		—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected infected with cysticerci	... ..	0.4	0.1	—	—	—	0.06

The estimated total weight of meat condemned was 157 tons 16 cwts. 19 lbs. compared with 116 tons 19 cwts. 19 lbs. in 1964, and with 113 tons 7 cwts. 32 lbs. in 1963. A large rise in the quantity of meat condemned will be noted, which is mainly due to an increase in the throughput of one slaughterhouse where a large number of casualty animals, particularly cows, are handled.

If the average cost per lb. of the meat condemned was 2/0d. then the value of the meat rejected as unfit for human consumption at slaughterhouses in this district in 1965 would be approximately £35,344. The condemned meat is sold by the slaughterhouse occupiers to approved establishments for processing for other than human consumption. At one slaughterhouse suitable condemned livers are allocated for pharmaceutical purposes together with certain other glands and organs. All condemned meat is covered by a certificate of voluntary surrender indicating the means of disposal.

The incidence and affects of particular diseases and conditions in animals has changed considerably during the past fifteen years. Modern management, intensive feeding, the use of antibiotics, and "tenderisers", etc., all influence the final products, and it is important, therefore, that the staff should keep up to date with modern techniques in this, as well as other aspects of public health work. Technical literature and meetings arranged by the appropriate professional bodies help to keep us up to date, but for the future it will be by the attendance at intensive refresher courses that Inspectors will benefit most.

The dramatic decline of bovine tuberculosis as a result of the Government's eradication scheme is shown on the following table.

	1955	1957	1959	1961	1963	1965
Animals Affected	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cows ...	38.2	32.0	13.2	2.4	0.6	0.77
Cattle (excluding cows) ...	9.7	9.6	7.4	0.4	0.05	0.04
All animals (incl. calves, pigs and sheep) ...	4.6	3.4	2.3	0.5	0.24	0.44

The figures for 1965 include 96 cows, 1 heifer and 7 calves consigned to three slaughterhouses in this area under the Tuberculosis (Slaughter of Reactors) Order. Out of these 52 cows were found to be affected with visible lesions of tuberculosis. Any case of tuberculosis found during the course of inspection is notified to the Ministry who endeavour to trace the source of infestation.

The number of slaughtermen licensed by the Council was 31.

CANALS

The use of the canals which cross the area by pleasure boats is increasing. The disposal of refuse and litter is always a problem, but it is hoped that with the co-operation of the British Waterways Board, it will be kept under control.

OFFENSIVE TRADE

There is still only one in the area—a tripe boiler—which continues to operate without cause for complaint.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

TABLE A—Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises (1)	Number of premises registered during the year (2)	Total number of registered premises at end of year (3)	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year (4)
Offices ...	5	11	11
Retail Shops ...	6	48	48
Wholesale shops and warehouses ...	1	1	1
Catering establish- ments open to the public, canteens ...	3	14	14
Fuel storage depots	—	2	2
	—	—	—
TOTALS	15	76	76
	—	—	—

TABLE B—Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises—133.

TABLE C—Analysis of Persons employed in Registered Premises by (according to) Workplace.

Class of workplace (1)	Number of Persons employed (2)
Offices	44
Retail shops	97
Wholesale departments, warehouses	9
Catering establishments open to the public	84
Canteens	—
Fuel storage depots	5
	<hr/>
	TOTAL 239
	<hr/>
	Total Males 86
	Total Females 153

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Your obedient Servant,

JOHN S. TOWNLEY, M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst. P.C.

Johnson & Son
(Nantwich) Limited

